



# alaska judicial council

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## Press Release

September 15, 2011

### Anchorage Superior Court, Third Judicial District

Twenty-four attorneys have applied to the Alaska Judicial Council for positions on the Anchorage Superior Court. Two positions were recently created by the Alaska Legislature. Another may be open due to the appointment of Judge Sharon L. Gleason to the United States District Court, which is pending her confirmation by the United States Senate.

Applicants for the judgeship will be evaluated by the Council's seven members (the chief justice, three non-attorney and three attorney members). Comprehensive background investigations, a survey of Alaska Bar members, and personal interviews with the applicants are all part of the evaluations, according to the Council's executive director, Larry Cohn. Interviews with applicants and a public hearing will be held in Anchorage. The Council will nominate the most qualified applicants and the governor will have 45 days to make appointments from the Council's list.

#### **Applicants are:**

**Sidney Kay Billingslea**: Ms. Billingslea has been an Alaska resident for 52½ years, and has practiced law for 27 years. She graduated from Lewis & Clark Northwestern School of Law in 1984, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Elizabeth Brennan:** Ms. Brennan has been an Alaska resident for 22 years, and has practiced law for 20½ years. She graduated from Santa Clara University School of Law in 1989, and is currently an assistant public defender in Anchorage.

**Rhonda F. Butterfield:** Ms. Butterfield has been an Alaska resident for 35 years, and has practiced law for 33 years. She graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in 1976, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Kevin G. Clarkson:** Mr. Clarkson has been an Alaska resident for 26 years, and has practiced law for 26 years. He graduated from Willamette University College of Law in 1985, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Kimberlee Colbo:** Ms. Colbo has been an Alaska resident for 19½ years, and has practiced law for 19 years. She graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1992, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Suzanne Cole:** Ms. Cole has been an Alaska resident for 21 years, and has practiced law for 20 years. She graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1990, and is currently a superior court master in Anchorage.

**Michael D. Corey:** Mr. Corey has been an Alaska resident for 31 years, and has practiced law for 25½ years. He graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1985, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Dani Crosby:** Ms. Crosby has been an Alaska resident for 25 years, and has practiced law for 15 years. She graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1996, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Jody Davis:** Ms. Davis has been an Alaska resident for 16 years, and has practiced law for 18 years. She graduated from the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University in 1993, and is currently an assistant municipal prosecutor in Anchorage.

**Leslie Dickson:** Ms. Dickson has been an Alaska resident for 16 years, and has practiced law for 15½ years. She graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1995, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Ken Diemer:** Mr. Diemer has been an Alaska resident for 15½ years, and has practiced law for 19 years. He graduated from Vermont Law School in 1991, and is currently an assistant attorney general in Anchorage.

**Catherine M. Easter:** Judge Easter has been an Alaska resident for 26 years, and has practiced law for 25 years. She graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1985, and is currently a district court judge in Anchorage.

**Joy Green-Armstrong:** Ms. Green-Armstrong has been an Alaska resident for 32½ years, and has practiced law for 11½ years. She graduated from Rutgers School of Law in 1996, and is currently In-House Counsel for the First National Bank Alaska in Anchorage.

**Jennifer Stuart Henderson:** Ms. Henderson has been an Alaska resident for 8 years, and has practiced law for 8 years. She graduated from Yale Law School in 2001, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Barat M. LaPorte:** Ms. LaPorte has been an Alaska resident for 42 years, and has practiced law for 16 years. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1995, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Dwayne W. McConnell:** Mr. McConnell has been an Alaska resident for 28 years, and has practiced law for 30½. He graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City in 1975, and is currently an assistant attorney general in the criminal division, Department of Law in Juneau.

**Kevin F. McCoy:** Mr. McCoy has been an Alaska resident for 35 years, and has practiced law for 35 years. He graduated from Western State University College of Law in 1975, and is currently an assistant federal public defender in Alaska.

**Paul E. Olson:** Judge Olson has been an Alaska resident for 34½ years, and has practiced law for 33½ years. He graduated from South Texas College of Law in 1975, and is currently a district court judge in Anchorage.

**Robert P. Owens:** Mr. Owens has been an Alaska resident for 28 years, and has practiced law for 27 years. He graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1981, and is currently an assistant municipal attorney in Anchorage.

**Daniel Quinn:** Mr. Quinn has been an Alaska resident for 29 years, and has practiced law for 29 years. He graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1982, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Kevin M. Saxby:** Mr. Saxby has been an Alaska resident for 25 years, and has practiced law for 26 years. He graduated from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 1986, and is currently a senior assistant attorney general in Anchorage.

**Gregory G. Silvey:** Mr. Silvey has been an Alaska resident for 23½ years, and has practiced law for 25½ years. He graduated from Willamette University College of Law in 1985, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

**Krista S. Stearns:** Ms. Stearns has been an Alaska resident for 19 years, and has practiced law for 17 years. She graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1992, and is currently City Attorney for Kenai.

**Jonathan Woodman:** Mr. Woodman has been an Alaska resident for 12 years, and has practiced law for 18 years. He graduated from the Ohio State University College of Law in 1993, and is currently an assistant attorney general in Anchorage.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THESE APPLICANTS IS ENCOURAGED DURING THE EVALUATION PHASE OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK. TO COMMENT, OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT LARRY COHN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL, 1029 W. THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 201, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1969, (907) 279-2526.

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